

Abstract: Perioperative blood use in Whipples and hepatectomy patients in the Mater Hospital

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Introduction: Maximum Surgical Blood Order Schedule (MSBOS) is a table of elective surgical procedures which lists number of units routinely cross matched pre-operatively. It was proposed in the 1970s to reduce blood wastage. This project was designed to address adherence to and appropriateness of a MSBOS in a Belfast teaching hospital.

Methods: Audit standards were set against current hospital guidance. Consecutive case notes for 62 patients undergoing Whipples procedure or hepatectomy over a six month period were reviewed and haemovigilance data assimilated.

Results: For Whipples operation 3.6% of patients met current MSBOS policy. For hepatectomy patients this was 0%.

Conclusion: This very practical audit encouraged us to question why adherence was so low. Appropriateness of existing guidance was addressed and new policy agreed with all relevant stakeholders. Further audit against these revised criteria is planned.